

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-7 (cancelled.)

8. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for raising a sample of liquid from a lower level to a higher level, said apparatus comprising a pair of flexible tubes extending alongside each other for extending from the higher level to the lower level, each of said tubes being of uniform bore along its length, a connector linking said tubes at their lower end for defining a generally U-shaped duct, a pig insertable into a first one of said tubes at an upper end thereof and movable along the length of said first tube to a resting position near the bottom of said first tube, said pig being liquid-impermeable and being in contact with the wall of said first tube, means at the upper end of said apparatus for adjusting the pressure in each of said tubes for urging said pig to move either up or down in said first tube in accordance with the applied pressures, and a valve communicating between the inside and outside of said first tube near its lower end but above the resting position of said pig.

9. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as defined in claim 8 wherein said pig is of generally cylindrical shape.

10. (Currently Amended) An apparatus as defined in claim 9 wherein said pig comprises a cylindrical block of a dense plastic foam, and end plates of a flexible polymeric material are affixed to said pig for providing ~~proving~~ a seal with the wall of said first tube.

11. (Previously Presented) An apparatus as defined in claim 8 wherein said valve is a non-return valve.

12. (Currently Amended) A method for raising a sample of liquid from a lower level to a higher level, using an apparatus comprising a pair of flexible tubes extending alongside each other, linked by a connector at one end, the tubes being of uniform bore along their length, so that the tubes and the connector define a generally U-shaped duct, a valve communicating between the inside and outside of one of the tubes near said one end, a liquid-impermeable pig insertable into a first one of the tubes at its other end, and means at the said other end for adjusting the pressure in each tube;

said method comprising the steps of:

arranging the tubes so that the connector is at the lower level,

inserting a pig into said first one of said tubes for providing a seal with the inside wall of the first tube,

adjusting pressures within said tubes for moving the pig to a resting position near the lower end of the first tube adjacent to ~~and below~~ the connector but below the valve,

causing liquid to enter the tube through the valve, and

adjusting the pressures within the tubes for moving the pig upwardly for pushing the liquid that has entered the tube to the upper end of the first tube.

13. (Previously Presented) A method as defined in claim 12 wherein the valve communicating between the inside and outside of the said one of the tubes is a non-return valve,

the method further including the step of decreasing the pressure at the top end of the first tube to below atmospheric

pressure for causing liquid to enter the first tube through the valve.

14. (Currently Amended) A method for raising a sample of liquid from a lower level to a higher level, using an apparatus comprising a pair of flexible tubes extending alongside each other, linked by a connector at one end, the tubes being of uniform bore along their length, so that the tubes and the connector define a generally U-shaped duct, a valve communicating between the inside and outside of one of the tubes near said one end, a liquid-impermeable pig insertable into a first one of the tubes at its other end, and means at the said other end for adjusting the pressure in each tube;

said method comprising the steps of:

arranging the tubes so that the connector is at the lower level,

inserting a pig into said first one of said tubes for providing a seal with the inside wall of the first tube,

adjusting pressures within said tubes for moving the pig to a resting position near the lower end of the first tube adjacent to the connector but below the valve,

causing liquid to enter the tube through the valve, and

adjusting the pressures within the tubes for moving the pig upwardly for pushing the liquid that has entered the tube to the upper end of the first tube, ~~as defined in claim 12~~ wherein the step of adjusting pressures is performed by utilizing a source of compressed gas for raising the pressure, and a jet pump for decreasing the pressure.

15. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for raising a sample of liquid from a lower level to a higher level, said apparatus comprising a pair of tubes extending alongside each other from

the higher level to the lower level, both tubes being of the same uniform bore along their length, a connector linking the tubes together at their lower ends for defining a duct of the same bore at their lower ends for defining a U-shaped duct, a pig insertable into a first one of the tubes at an upper end thereof, said pig being liquid-impermeable and providing a seal with an inside wall of said first tube, means at the upper end of said apparatus for adjusting the pressure in each tube for urging said pig to move either up or down in accordance with the applied pressures, and a valve affixed to said first tube and communicating between the inside and outside of said first tube near its lower end for ~~allow~~ allowing liquid to enter said U-shaped duct.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for raising a sample of liquid from a lower level to a higher level, using an apparatus comprising a pair of tubes extending alongside each other, both tubes being of the same uniform bore along their length and linked by a connector defining a duct of the same bore at one end so that the tubes and the connector define a U-shaped duct, a valve communicating between the inside and outside of the U-shaped duct near the one end, a liquid-impermeable pig insertable into a first one of the tubes at an upper end thereof for providing a seal with the inside wall of the first tube, and means at the upper level of the tubes for adjusting the pressure in each tube,

the method comprising the steps of:

arranging the tubes so that the connector is at the lower level and the other ends of the U-shaped duct are at the higher level,

inserting a pig into a first one of the tubes,

adjusting the pressures within the tubes for ~~moving the pig down the first tube and then up the other tube for~~ causing liquid to enter the U-shaped duct through the valve, for moving the pig down the first tube, and for pushing the pig and so also the liquid that has entered the U-shaped duct up other tube to the higher level.

~~further adjusting the pressures within the tubes for pushing the pig and the liquid that has entered the U-shaped duct up to the higher level.~~